(c) whether the ban on felling of trees has been relaxed, if so, the reasons therefor and when; and

(d) whether Government propose to impose the ban on felling of trees effectively in Jammu and Kashmir?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following steps have been taken by the State Govt. to stop felling of trees in J & K:—

(i) Commercial felling of trees in specified catchments in both Jammu and Kashmir regions have been banned since 15-1-1990.

(ii) Jammu and Kashmir Forest (Conservation) Act, 1990 has been enacted to check indiscriminate diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes.

(iii) The State Govt. have proposed to reduce the annual yield from 8.57 lacs cubic metre prescribed in the working plans to 1.43 lacs cubic metre in 1992-93.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The State Government of Jammu and Kashmir have informed that the ban on felling of trees is being effectively imposed.

Manufacture on N-Paraffin

*110. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has agreed to the manufacture of N-Paraffin from kerosene originally proposed by the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No investment approval was given by the Government to Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd., to set up facilities for manufacture of N-Paraffin from Kerosene.

(b) Does not arise.

ONGC output target

*111. SHRIMATI MIRA DAS:
SHRI CHIMAN BHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ONGC output target has been cut by 7 MT due to natural decline in oil reserves in Bombay High and fields of North Gujarat, if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) what would be the extra foreign exchange burden due to this cut;

(c) whether it is also a fact that expansion of Hazira Complex is not yet cleared;

(d) what are the reasons for delay and what losses are occurring due to delay; and

(e) what are the details regarding expansion of Hazira Complex indicating investment, categories of projects etc.?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) The estimated cost of Hazira terminal expansion is Rs. 952.99 crores including foreign exchange component of Rs. 558.80 crores, and it would expand the capacity of the terminal from 20 MMSCMD to 41 MMSCMD. The proposal is being processed for approval.